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Yama ISSENGHE, (Pax Romania), referring to the situation in East Timer, cited a study commissioned by the Indonesion government of the island which concluded that, among other things, the Indonesian armed forces exercised "exaggerated control" over the population, which had led to the violation of human rights, and that the improvement in infrastructures on the island had not "overcome the problems caused by the death of so many Timorese."

The speaker recalled that both the General Assembly and the Security Council had affirmed the rights of the Timorese to self-determination in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and 1541 (XV). General Assembly resolution 37/30 of 1982 provided the adequate framework for solving the conflicts in East Timor, he added. The current negotiations under the auspices of the Secretary-General had been going on since 1982 while the lives of the Timorese were destroyed by the state of war they were under.

Turning to the situation of the nomadic Tourag people of North Africa, the speaker said that hundreds of them had been recently massacred by Niger's army. Many of them had run a similar fate in Mali. These nomads had been deprived of their way of life by the borders drawn by the colonial power in the region.

Maria Almeida DE QUINTEROS, (Pax Romana) speaking on item 10, said that her daughter had been abducted by Uruguayan police in 1976 from the Venezuelan Embassy in Montevideo, where she had sought refuge. Her abduction and disappearance went unpunished due to a law approved in 1986 which granted immunity to members of the military responsible for human rights violations during Uruguay's dictatorship. By passing this law the Government had disregarded its obligations under several international human rights instruments.

The investigation of the many disappearances under the dictatotship, was left to military prosecutors, not the judicial branch. Left to investigate itself, the military found nothing. However, a document which directly incriminated the Government of the time to her daughter's disappearance had recently surfaced. She urged the Sub-Commission to ask the Working Group on forced and Involuntary Disappearances to contact the Urugaryan Government about this document and investigate into the disappearance of her daughter. That could lead to the clearing up of other disappearances.